6:Gt. Brit. . Colonial Office G-3 (1948) 1950 MM1 Aden M M1

501 The craft used are of two kinds, the sambuk, which is a planked surf-boat of up to 35 feet long, and the huri, a dugout canoe imported from India to which a topstrake is usually added locally. Huris range from 8 to 30 feet and are popular because they can withstand neglect and rough usage. No power-craft are yet used for fishing. During 1948 there were 34 sambuks and 341 huris in the Colony.

286 226 Nets are all hand-braided locally. There are several types which operate by surrounding a shoal of pelagic fish which are then induced to gill themselves. Beach seins are also used and cast-nets are popular for small shoaling fish. Handlines are used extensively but longlines are not known.

435 Although prices are generally higher for consumption fresh than for salting, lack of transport prevents fish from reaching the Colony's markets in any quantity from outside a few miles radius. In consequence, landings are spasmodic and prices fluctuate widely, to the detriment of both fisherman and consumer. There is no provision for dealing with temporary gluts except by salting for export. Salt fish is beyond the means of the poorer people, as loss of weight during curing increases its price.

226 In short, the Colony's fishing industry is not at present able to maintain a steady supply of fish for a community of 80,000 people. A Fishery Officer has, however, been appointed and it is hoped that he will be able to improve the position in years to come.

[439 The island of Perim at the mouth of the Red Sea is part of the Crown Colony. The Perim fishing community comprises between 20 and 30 families, who salt and export their surplus fish to an annual value of between Rs. 15,000 and Rs. 20,000. The Perim pearl fisheries have not been let since 1946, when the lessee is reported to have lost money on the enterprise.

OTHER INDUSTRIES

504 473 167 As already stated, the main industry is the bunkering of ships and the handling of cargo. These activities are in the hands of large firms, the labour employed consisting almost entirely of immigrant Yemeni Arabs who come south for a year or two, leaving their wives at home, and return when they have accumulated sufficient money.

433 472 There are some small factories owned by private companies. The chief are soap works, aluminium pressing of domestic utensils, cutting of button blanks from trochas shell, manufacture of cigarettes and dyeing and printing of cloth. These (with the exception of button blanks) supply the local demand and provide for export to adjoining territories.

286 249 Of industries organised among small producers, the principal one is the weaving of cloth, by one-man treadle-operated handlooms. This supplies Aden and adjoining territories. Small crushing plants, with one camel turning a mill, extract sesame oil for cooking purposes.

463 The industries supplying the domestic market are mostly in the hands of individual craftsmen, or a master craftsman with a few assistants. Such are tailors, carpenters, blacksmiths, tinsmiths, garage mechanics, bakers, confectioners, potters, barbers, washermen and cobblers.

7: Gt. Brit., Colonial Office G-3 (1949-50) 1951 MM1 Aden MM1

The cleaning, sorting and packing for re-export of hides, skins, coffee, incense and gum are occupations of considerable importance. Several big merchants as well as small exporters are engaged in these trades. No figures are available, but it is estimated that approximately 2,000 men and women are engaged as casual labour. Apart from some limited employment in domestic service, this is the only work in which women are employed in Aden. 463

There is no agriculture in the Colony, and the only local product is salt obtained from the sea by solar evaporation. This industry employs some 750 regular and 550 casual workers. 241 317

There is no heavy industry in Aden apart from some ship repairing (including floating docks). The light industries are confined to finishing processes using imported materials. The most important of these light industries are the production of aluminium, hollow-ware, soap, calico printing, and a little dyeing and weaving of cotton fabric, the manufacture of furniture and cigarettes. Machinery is used in the aluminium and cigarette factories, and to some extent in furniture making. The textile trade is primitive in the extreme and is entirely hand work. The weaving is done in the home, using primitive looms with hand-thrown shuttles. 438 463 286

Large numbers are engaged in retail trade, the distributive, catering and transport industries, and in small workshops or in independent crafts. Figures more recent than those of the 1946 census are not available. An unusually high proportion of persons are engaged in catering, particularly in small eating houses, coffee shops and in hawking food, tea, coffee and even iced drinking water. This is explained by the large number of immigrant male workers (whose families remain at home) and by the local custom of sending out for cooked food. There are also many domestic servants, particularly small boys employed in homes where purdah prevents the women from marketing. 463 [265]

There is a great deal of casual employment, comparatively few workers have permanent work, unskilled labour is entirely immigrant and dependent to a certain extent on economic conditions in nearby territories. Immigrant workers, whose families remain in their villages, usually return there after about two years. 464

Standards of craftsmanship are low, and the rate of production, quality of tools, and methods of work in general leave much to be desired. Mechanisation is almost unknown and a large labour force is thus employed in such processes as bunkering of coal by hand, and working salt in the pans, as well as, for example, in the building trade where even the wheelbarrow is rarely seen. Commercial firms and the very large number of small locally-owned workshops do not use any proper apprenticeship system. Boys pick up some knowledge as helpers, but are casually employed and may frequently change employment. A general all-round improvement is expected with the opening of the Government Technical College, where night classes for adults 461 [466] 874

7:Gt. Britain Colonial Office G-3 (1949-50) 1951 NMI Aden NMI

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CARPET-MAKING IN THE GAOL

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NEW METHODS OF AGRICULTURE AT ABYAN

Cutting an irrigation canal to bring new lands into cultivation. The scheme is financed by a Colonial Development and Welfare grant.

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8:Gt. Brit., Colonial Office G-3 (1951-52)1954 MM1 Aden MM1

skipper, one engineer and six crew, one accountant and one clerk/interpreter. A few statistical posts are operating in the Protectorate but Colony statistics on a weight basis will not be collected until April, 1953.

Local fishermen are encouraged to increase yields by using better materials, different gear, powered boats and to fish in any newly discovered areas, particularly off-shore. In addition the setting up of co-operative societies, a debt settlement organisation and better run markets are contemplated.

A Government loans fund of £2,000 per annum for fishermen was created in 1950. Two fishermen have mechanised their sambuks; corks for floating nets have replaced pieces of wood; more and more fishing nets are being made from machine-made twines; and better shark-fishing tackle is being introduced. Manufactured net preservatives and nylon traces are beginning to be used by the hand-line fishermen.

Fisheries Committee

A Government Fisheries Committee was appointed in 1951 to direct the activities of the Fisheries Department. Much of the progress mentioned above has been achieved since its creation. The Committee suggested a radical change in fish marketing, the setting up of a marketing organisation, debt settlement, long-term credit for fishermen, the repeal of restrictive fisheries laws and greater efforts by the Fisheries Department to find further fishing grounds and new methods suitable for the local fishing industry. All these suggestions have been favourably considered by Government and it is hoped that development will not be slow once the necessary steps have been taken.

OTHER INDUSTRIES

As already stated, the main industry is the bunkering of ships and the handling of cargo. These activities are in the hands of large firms, the labour employed consisting almost entirely of immigrant Yemen Arabs who come south for a year or two, leaving their wives at home, and return when they have accumulated sufficient money.

There are some small factories owned by private companies. The chief products are soap, soft drinks, aluminium pressed domestic utensils, cigarettes and dyed and printed cloth. These supply local demand and provide for export to adjoining territories.

Of the industries organised among small producers, the principal one is the weaving of cloth by one-man treadle-operated handlooms which supplies Aden and adjoining territories. Small crushing plants, with one camel turning a mill, extract sesame oil for cooking purposes.

The industries supplying the domestic market are mostly in the hands of individual craftsmen, or a master craftsman with a few assistants. Such are tailors, carpenters, blacksmiths, tinsmiths, garage mechanics, bakers, confectioners, potters, barbers, washermen and cobblers.